

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00

XMB-02 /033 W

-----192244Z 086340 /13

R 180941Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4480

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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PASS EXIM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, YO

SUBJECT: PAN ADRIA TO RESUME FLIGHT OPERATIONS

REF: '76 ZAGREB 898

1. ZAGREB DAILY "VJESNIK" REPORTED MAY 16 THAT PAN ADRIA, SMALL FEEDER AIRLINE HEADQUARTERED IN ZAGREB, WILL SOON RESUME COMMERCIAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS. ALL FIVE OF PAN ADRIA'S FAIRCHILD 227-B'S HAVE BEEN GROUNDED FOR LACK OF SPARES SINCE OCTOBER 1976 (REFTEL). PAN ADRIA TECHNICAL DIRECTOR CONFIRMED TO CONGEN THAT ON MAY 17, ONE PLANE WILL BEGIN TO FLY THREE TIMES WEEKLY ON ZAGREB-MOSTAR-BELGRADE LINE. SECOND PLANE WILL FLY ZAGREB-VIENNA TWICE WEEKLY BEGINNING MAY 23. SAME PLANES WILL ALSO BE USED TO OPERATE SERVICE FROM ZAGREB TO ADRIATIC COAST CITIES OF ZADAR, PULA, SPLIT, AND DUBROVNIK. IN JULY, PAN ADRIA EXPECTS THIRD PLANE TO BE OPERATIONAL FOR USE ON ZAGREB-TITOGRAĐ LINE. THE REMAINING TWO PLANES WILL BE FLYING BY THE END OF 1977. PAN ADRIA OFFICIAL SAID FLIGHT SERVICES WILL BE OPERATED "IN COOPERATION" WITH YUGOSLAVIA'S NATIONAL AIRLINE JAT, BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS

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DID NOT MEAN MERGER.

3. COMMENT: RESUMPTION OF SCHEDULED FLIGHTS FOLLOWS OVERHAUL NOT ONLY OF PLANES BUT ALSO OF PAN ADRIA'S FINANCIAL STRUCTURE. PAN ADRIA'S LOSSES OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS WERE MORE THAN THREE MILLION DOLLARS. UNDER TERMS OF A FINANCIAL RECOVERY PROGRAM, DRAFTED BY THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMIC CHAMBER,

PAN ADRIA WILL RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM SPECIAL CITY AND REPUBLICAN FUNDS RESERVED FOR FIRMS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. PAN ADRIA'S CREDITORS WERE ALSO INVITED TO MEET WITH PAN ADRIA TO DISCUSS "FORCED LEVELLING" OF PAN ADRIA'S DEBTS. ALL CLAIMS MUST BE SETTLED OR COVERED BY CREDITS BEFORE JULY 1. PAN ADRIA ALSO WILL RECEIVE INVESTMENT CREDITS OF ALMOST TWO MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT, THE ZAGREB CITY GOVERNMENT, AND JUGOBANKA. THESE STEPS WILL PUT PAN ADRIA TEMPORARILY IN THE AIR, BUT IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE LONGER TERM VIABILITY OF THE AIRLINE WILL DEPEND ON THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT. KAISER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ZAGREB00408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770179-0459
Format: TEL
From: ZAGREB
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770541/aaaabjmh.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bf4a5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2460675
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN ADRIA TO RESUME FLIGHT OPERATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, YO, PAN ADRIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bf4a5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009